

Message Text

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11

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 AID-20 AGR-20 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:SWBUCK:BG
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN
FHWA:LRATLIFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: MU PFOR

SUBJ: FHWA - OMAN COOPERATION

REF: KUWAIT 0877

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

1. FHWA STANDS READY PROVIDE ITS SERVICES TO OMAN.
HOWEVER MEETING FHWA, IBRD AND OMANI REPS MARCH 11
REVEALED THIS MAY PROVE DIFFICULT BECAUSE IBRD LOAN
REGULATIONS REQUIRE COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND FHWA NOT
ABLE DO THIS. IBRD BELIEVES IT ABLE THROUGH CONTRACTORS
TO PROVIDE ALL SERVICES OUTLINED PARA 3 REFTEL. AT SAME
TIME IT HAS INFORMALLY ADVISED OMANIS ITS FULL CONFIDENCE
ABILITY FHWA TO PROVIDE ANY HIGHWAY ADVISORY SERVICE WHICH
IT COULD PROVIDE.

2. APPEARS \$3 MILLION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE LOAN FROM IBRD
TO OMAN WILL BE OFFSET BY OMANI PURCHASE OF IBRD BONDS.
PRIMARY PURPOSE OF LOAN TO ENABLE IBRD SUPPLY TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE TO OMAN. HENCE REAL CHOICE FOR OMANIS IS
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BETWEEN DIRECT ARRANGEMENT WITH FHWA AND IBRD-CONTRACTED

EXPERTS. TO BETTER HELP OMANIS DECIDE, SUGGEST BREWER PASS
EMBASSY MUSCAT ANY USEFUL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE
ON FHWA ADVISORY CAPABILITIES AND WORK IN KUWAIT.

3. NO DECISION REACHED IN WASHINGTON REGARDING IBRD VS.
FHWA ADVISORY ROLE IN OMAN. IBRD UNDERSTANDS MATTER LEFT
TO DISCUSSION BETWEEN TOWNSEND AND RAJAB. ONE SOLUTION
MAY BE FOR OMANI GOVERNMENT TO CONTRACT DIRECTLY WITH
FHWA FOR SERVICES OF EXPERTS, WITH IBRD INPUT UNDER
PROPOSED LOAN LIMITED TO OVERALL SUPERVISORY ASSISTANCE
FOR TRANSPORT SECTOR.

KISSINGER

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